

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1761

Introduced by Assembly Member Fong

February 8, 2010

An act to amend Section 69435 of the Education Code, relating to student financial aid.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1761, as introduced, Fong. Cal Grant B awards: award amount.

Existing law, known as the Ortiz-Pacheco-Poochigian-Vasconcellos Cal Grant Program, establishes the Cal Grant B Entitlement Awards under the administration of the Student Aid Commission, and establishes eligibility requirements for awards under these programs for participating students attending qualifying institutions. The act requires that the award be used only for tuition, student fees, and access costs in a for-credit instructional program that is not less than one academic year in length. Access grants are awarded in a student's first academic year. The act provides that not more than 2% of new Cal Grant B recipients be eligible for payments for tuition or fees, or both, in their first academic year of attendance.

This bill would increase, during the 2011–12 academic year, the percentage of new Cal Grant B recipients eligible for payments for tuition or fees, or both, in their first academic year of attendance to 25%. The bill would increase this percentage to 50% for the 2012–13 academic year, and to 75% for the 2013–2014 academic year. The bill would also provide that commencing with the 2014–15 academic year, all new Cal Grant B recipients enrolling for the first time in an institution of postsecondary education would be eligible for payments for tuition or fees, or both, during their first academic year.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 69435 of the Education Code is amended
2 to read:
3 69435. (a) (1) A Cal Grant B award shall be used only for
4 tuition, student fees, and access costs in a for-credit instructional
5 program that is not less than one academic year in length.
6 (2) The commission, or a qualifying institution pursuant to
7 Article 8 (commencing with Section 69450), shall award access
8 grants in a student's first academic year. In subsequent years, the
9 award shall include an additional amount to pay tuition or fees, or
10 both, to attend college at a public or private four-year college or
11 university or other qualifying institution for all Cal Grant B awards
12 pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (b) of Section 66021.2.
13 In no event shall the total award in any year exceed the applicant's
14 calculated financial need.
15 (3) ~~Not~~(A) *During the 2011–12 academic year, not more than*
16 ~~2~~ 25 percent of new Cal Grant B recipients enrolling for the first
17 time in an institution of postsecondary education shall be eligible
18 for payments for tuition or fees, or both, in their first academic
19 year of attendance. ~~The~~
20 (B) *During the 2012–13 academic year, not more than 50*
21 *percent of new Cal Grant B recipients enrolling for the first time*
22 *in an institution of postsecondary education shall be eligible for*
23 *payments for tuition or fees, or both, in their first academic year*
24 *of attendance.*
25 (C) *During the 2013–14 academic year, not more than 75*
26 *percent of new Cal Grant B recipients enrolling for the first time*
27 *in an institution of postsecondary education shall be eligible for*
28 *payments for tuition or fees, or both, in their first academic year*
29 *of attendance.*
30 (D) *Commencing with the 2014–15 academic year, all new Cal*
31 *Grant B recipients enrolling for the first time in an institution of*
32 *postsecondary education shall be eligible for payment for tuition*
33 *or fees, or both, in their first academic year of attendance.*
34 (E) *The commission shall adopt regulations specifying the*
35 *criteria used to determine which applicants, if any, receive both*

1 tuition and fees plus the access grant in the first year of enrollment.
2 Priority shall be given to students with the lowest expected family
3 contribution pursuant to Section 69432.7 and the highest level of
4 academic merit.
5 (b) An award for access costs under this article shall be in an
6 annual amount not to exceed one thousand five hundred fifty-one
7 dollars (\$1,551). This amount may be adjusted in the annual Budget
8 Act.

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